

# Some Own Problems In Number Theory

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Here are some problems composed by me. And the problems or their solutions have not been approved by someone else. So if any fault occurs, I shall take the whole responsibility. In this case, please inform me. Among the problems, many were posted by me in **AoPS**. So, I thank the mathlinkers who posted replies and solutions there. A notable fact is, I put the problems not in order of difficulty, just randomly-which I thought to be interesting.

## 1 Notations

I have used notations which are used as usual. If not stated in a problem, then the variables are to be assumed positive integers. Otherwise they are stated. Here the notations are:

†  $N = \{1, 2, \dots, n, \dots\}$  → the set of all natural numbers or positive integers or positive whole numbers.

†  $Z = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  → the set of all integers (all positive, negative, including non-negative 0).

$N_0 = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  → the set of all non-negative integers.

†  $a \in A$  →  $a$  is an element of  $A$ .

†  $p$  → prime.

†  $a|b$  →  $a$  divides  $b$ , i.e.  $b$  gives remainder 0 upon division by  $a$ . There is another notation on this- $b \dot{=} a$  means  $b$  is divisible by  $a$ . But we shall use the widely used first notation here.

†  $a \nmid b$  →  $a$  does not divide  $b$ .

†  $a|b \wedge c$  →  $a$  divides both  $a$  and  $c$ .

†  $gcd(a, b) = g$  →  $g$  is the greatest common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$ . In other words,  $g$  is the largest positive integer such that  $g|a \wedge b$ .

†  $\varphi(m)$  → the number of positive integers less or equal to  $m$  and co-prime to  $m$ . It is called **Euler's Totient Function** or **Euler's Phi Function**, shortly **phi** of  $m$ .

†  $\forall n, \exists k$  → for all  $n$ , there exists  $k$  such that.

†  $[x]$  → greatest integer function.  $[x]$  is the largest integer less or equal to  $x$ .

## 2 Problems

### Problem 1:

Prove that there exist no  $(n, m) \in \mathbb{N}$  so that  $n + 3m$  and  $n^2 + 3m^2$  both are perfect cubes. Find all such  $(m, n)$  if  $(m, n) \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

### Problem 2:

Find all primes  $p$  such that  $11^p + 10^p$  is a perfect power. (A positive integer is called **perfect power** if it can be expressed as  $m^k$  for some natural  $k > 1$ ).

### Problem 3:

In a single person game, Alex plays maintaining the following rules:

She is asked to consider the set of all natural numbers less than  $n$  on a board. Then she starts from 1 and whenever she gets an integer co-prime to  $n$ , she writes 1 on the board, otherwise she writes 0. That is she will write a binary sequence with either 1 or 0.

She denotes the number of 1's in this binary sequence of  $n$  by  $\Phi_1(n)$  and the number of 0's by  $\Phi_0(n)$ .

Now, she wins if she can choose an  $n$  having at least 2 prime factors in the first choice such that  $\Phi_1(n) | n$ . Prove the following:

\* 1 : There exist infinitely many  $n$  such that she can win in the first move.

\* 2 : If she chooses an  $n$  having more than 3 prime factors, she can't never win.

\* 3 : If  $n = \prod_{i=1}^n p_i^{a_i}$ , then  $\prod_{i=1}^n p_i^{a_i - 1} | \Phi_0(n)$ .

\* 4 : Find all such  $n$  such that she can win.

### Problem 4:

Let  $F_n = 2^{2^n} + 1$  be the  $n$ -th **Fermat number**. Prove that  $2^{2^m + 2^n} | F_n^{F_m - 1} - 1 \forall m, n$ .

### Problem 5:

Prove that for  $a > 2$ ,  $a^{a-1} - 1$  is never square-free. A number is called **square-free** if it has no square factor i.e. for no  $x$ , it is divisible by  $x^2$ .

### Problem 6:

Show that  $\frac{a^5 + b^5}{a^3 b^3 + 1}$  is a perfect cube for an infinite  $(a, b)$  whenever it is an integer.

### Problem 7:

Prove that for all odd  $p \nmid c$ ,  $ord_{p^k}(c) = ord_p(c) \cdot p^{k-1}$ . If  $x$  is the smallest integer such that  $a^x \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ , then  $x$  is called the **order** of  $a$  modulo  $m$ . And we write it,  $ord_m(a) = x$ .

### Problem 8:

Show that for all prime  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ , there exists a complete set of residue class of  $p$  such that the sum of its elements is divisible by  $p^2$ .

### Problem 9:

For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , prove that  $81 | 10^{n+1} - 10 - 9n$ .

### Problem 10:

Find all  $n$  such that  $n | 2^{n!} - 1$ .

### Problem 11:

Find all  $n$  such that **(a)**.  $n | 2^n + 1$ , **(b)**.  $n | 3^n + 1$ .

### Problem 12:

A number is called a **perfect number** if the sum of its proper divisors (i.e. divisors less than the original number) is equal to the initial number. Determine

all perfect numbers having  $p$  factors(if there exists).

**Problem 13:**

Prove that,a number having only one prime factor can't be perfect.

**Problem 14:**

Find all  $(a, b)$  such that  $ab|a^3 + b^3$ .

**Problem 15:**

Solve in positive integers: $a^7 + b^7 = 823543(ac)^{1995}$ .

**Problem 16:**

Find all  $n$  such that **(a)**. $n^2 - 27n + 182$ ,**(b)**. $n^2 - 27n + 183$  is a perfect square.

**Problem 17:**

Find all  $(a, b) \in N_0$  such that  $7^a + 11^b$  is a perfect square.

**Problem 18:**

Consider a complete set of residues modulo  $p$ .show that we can partition this set into two subsets with equal number of elements such that the sum of elements in each set is divisible by  $p$ .

**Problem 19:**

Let  $a_i, m$  be positive integers such that  $a_i + m$  is a prime for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .Take the number  $N$  such that  $N = \prod_{i=1}^n p_i^{a_i}$ .Let  $S$  be the number of ways to express  $N$  as a product of  $m$  positive integers.Prove that  $m^n | S$ .

**Problem 20:**

Prove that  $\forall n, \exists k : \frac{n}{\lfloor \sqrt[n]{n} \rfloor} > \frac{n+k}{\lfloor \sqrt[n]{n+k} \rfloor}$ .

**Problem 21:**

Find all  $(a, b, c, d) \in Z$  such that  $abc - d = 1, bcd - a = 2$ .

### 3 References

[1] Amir Hossein Parvardi (amparvardi in AoPS), **Lifting The Exponent Lemma (LTE)**.

AoPS topic # 393335, *Lifting The Exponent Lemma (Containing PDF file)*, posted by amparvardi. <http://www.artofproblemsolving.com/Forum/viewtopic.php?t=393335>

Santiago Cuellar, Jose Alejandro Samper, *A nice and tricky lemma (lifting the exponent)*, Mathematical Reflections **3** 2007.

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<http://www.artofproblemsolving.com/Forum/viewtopic.php?f=57t=356847hilit=both+perfect+cu>

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Problem 7—AoPS topic # 374822, *CWMO2011*, posted by chaotic<sub>i</sub>ak.

<http://www.artofproblemsolving.com/Forum/viewtopic.php?f=57t=374822hilit=CWM0+2010>

*Problem 8—AoPS blog #85314, The Law Of Nature-Number Theory, posted by mathmdmb.*

<http://www.artofproblemsolving.com/Forum/blog.php?u=85314>

*Problem 16—AoPS topic #356079, Find all  $n$ , posted by mathmdmb.*

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*Problem 17—AoPS topic #304361, Problem 202, posted in Number Theory Marathon by mathmdmb.*

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